Prince *Johan*, *Chriſtian* Duke of *Lignitz* and *Brieg* in *Sileſia*, had a Diſcourſe unto the Miniſters of the Goſpel of that Principality, in a Publick Aſſembly, in the Year 1627. Wherein he ſhewed them,

THat the Lord had, by ſeveral National-plagues, manifeſted his Wrath againſt them, and that by reaſon of their Iniquities, being ſo hainous and univerſal, it had now proceeded ſo far, that in all appearance there ſcarce would be found among them Ten Perſons truly Godly and Religious. That the People commonly did buſy themſelves with a kind of Worſhip, conſiſting only in hearing Sermons, receiving Sacraments, making a General Confeſſion of Sins, profeſſing a Willingneſs and Hope to be ſaved through the Merits of CHRIST, and promiſing of Repentance or Amendment of Life: But that they, at the Utmoſt, did only keep themſelves from External Groſs Tranſgreſſions, and rehearſed only Forms of Prayer, Morning and Evening, alſo before and after Meat; and that they imagined, after that manner, to attain to Salvation, regarding nothing further, but wholly minding their Worldly Affairs. That the People did not well underſtand the Ten Commands, nor the LORD's Prayer, nor Man's Miſery; nor what Difference there is betwixt Sin Indwelling only, and Sin having Dominion, betwixt a Living and a Dead Faith, betwixt the Letter and the Spirit; nor what the Love of GOD is, the Yoke of CHRIST, Regeneration, Self-denial, the Warfare betwixt the Fleſh and Spirit; and what Brokeneſs of Heart is; and how we ſhould *work out our Salvation with Fear and Trembling*. That all this did in a great meaſure proceed from the Miniſters, who did not ſo acquit themſelves in their Charges as that any were Converted; That they, *viz.* the Miniſters did place All in hearing Sermons and receiving Sacraments; That they did not ſeriouſly conſider how the People muſt be prepared for the LORD's Supper; That they reckoned to have well acquit themſelves when they have only Preached twice a Week, having in the mean time neglected the Principal Work, which is to ſpeak to the People in Particular, and at their ſeveral Dwelling-Houſes, and to ſearch and try them, teach, admoniſh and reprove them; and That they did not ſet before themſelves the right Scope in their undertaking the Miniſterial Charge, and in their executing of it; That not one of Ten made the Building up of CHRIST's Kingdom his Principal End; That in their Meetings they had no right Scope and Aim, ſuch as the Diſcourſing of what occurs in Viſiting of Congregations; How Hearers of the Goſpel do acquit themſelves in Life and Converſation, and how Matters go as to Scandals and Offences That they laboured not to know how Young and Old underſtood, apply'd to themſelves, and reduced into Practice, the Doctrine of the Catechiſm; That they did not themſelves lead an Examplary Life, nor had their Lives ſuited to their Doctrine; Yea, That they continued careleſs and ſecure, and would not ſo much as once conſider and learn, what were incumbent for them to do for bringing Matters to a better Paſs, while yet Experience did teach, that it cannot be effectuated by ſuch general and ſuperficial Work. And that therefore; He did now propoſe to the Miniſters, this Queſtion to be more maturely Conſidered and Pondered, How Means, appoſite and ſure, and in the preſent Juncture of time and State of the Church, practicable, might yet be fallen upon, whereby the prevailing Carnal Security may be effectually driven away, Lip-ſervice laid aſide, and Religion in Reality and Truth, truly acceptable unto GOD, planted among us, and tranſmitted to Poſterity?

The ſame Prince thereafter did emit a Publick Edict amongſt his Subjects, Requiring every one, both Miniſters and People, and alſo the Magiſtrates to contribute their Endeavours for Reformation.

This above-written Account was Tranſlated firſt out of the High-Dutch *into the* Netherland *Tongue, and Printed at* Groningen 1676, *and is now, out of the* Low-Dutch, *turned into* Engliſh.